

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Peter KEKICH et al.	)	
	)	Art Unit: To be assigned
Serial No.: To be assigned	)	
	)	Examiner: To be assigned
Filed: October 24, 2003	)	
	)	
For: VEHICLE STEP	)	
	)	

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San Diego, California

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir or Madam:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant makes the below-listed documents of record in the above-identified application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not a representation that the information cited is effective as prior art to the application or is material to patentability.

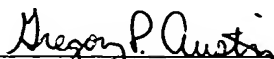
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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and anything being referred to as enclosed herein, is being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Label No. EV292297092US with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: October 24, 2003

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Gregory P. Austin

U.S. Patent Documents

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,311,320 to John E. Waters, Jr., issued January 19, 1982;
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,934,721 to Patrick H. Flores, issued June 19, 1990;
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,286,049 to Shahid R. Khan, issued February 15, 1994;
4. U.S. Patent No. 5,382,035 to Donald R. Waddington, et al., issued January 17, 1995;
5. U.S. Patent No. 5,697,626 to Patrick K. McDaniel, et al., issued December 16, 1997;
6. U.S. Patent No. 5,713,589 to John A. Delgado, et al., issued February 3, 1998;
7. U.S. Patent No. 6,050,579 to Arthur E. Selland, et al., issued April 18, 2000;
8. U.S. Patent No. 6,135,472 to Kevin Wilson, et al., issued October 24, 2000;
9. U.S. Patent No. 6,158,756 to David Curtis Hansen, issued December 12, 2000;
10. U.S. Patent No. 6,173,979 B1 to Edward Helmut Bernard, issued January 16, 2001;
11. U.S. Patent No. 6,203,040 B1 to Paul Hutchins, issued March 20, 2001;
12. U.S. Patent No. 6,375,207 B1 to Thomas Dean, et al., issued April 23, 2002;
13. U.S. Patent No. 6,325,397 B1 to David M. Pascoe, et al., issued December 4, 2001;
14. U.S. Patent No. 6,409,193 B2 to Edward Helmut Bernard, issued June 25, 2002;  
and
15. U.S. Patent No. 6,435,534 B1 to Harry W. Stone, issued August 20, 2002.

\* \* \*

The above-listed documents are listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 (submitted in duplicate).

Copies of the above-listed U.S. patents are not enclosed, in accordance with the waiver of the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after

June 30, 2003 that appears in the Official Gazette Notice dated August 5, 2003 and entitled "Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications Filed After June 30, 2003".


It is respectfully requested that these documents be (1) fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the examination of the above-identified application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. It is also respectfully requested that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b). Therefore, it is believed that no fee is required in connection with this submission.

In the event that a fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2298, in the name of Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

10.24.03  
Date

  
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Peter R. Martinez  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 42,845  
c/o LUCE, FORWARD, HAMILTON  
& SCRIPPS LLP  
11988 El Camino Real, Ste. 200  
San Diego, California 92130  
Telephone No.: (858) 720-6300

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	October 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	Peter KEKICH et al.
Art Unit	To Be Assigned
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	30373-11

Sheet 1 of 1

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 4,311,320	01-19-1982	Waters, Jr.	
		US- 4,934,721	06-19-1990	Flores	
		US- 5,286,049	02-15-1994	Khan	
		US- 5,382,035	01-17-1995	Waddington et al.	
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		US- 6,158,756	12-12-2000	Hansen	
		US- 6,173,979 B1	01-16-2001	Bernard	
		US- 6,203,040 B1	03-20-2001	Hutchins	
		US- 6,375,207 B1	04-23-2002	Dean et al.	
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		US- 6,435,534 B1	08-20-2002	Stone	
		US-			
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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